Claim Listing

Claim 1(Original)   In an interactive library system having a computer in telecommunication link with at least one user computer and computer of at least one content provider requiring payment for information access, a method for providing information from the content provider to the user which comprises:

receiving, by the library system computer, user identification and password from the user computer;

comparing, by the library system computer, said received user identification and password with authorized user identifications and corresponding passwords stored in the library system to determine whether to grant access to the interactive library system;

if comparison results in grant of access, then

receiving, by the library system computer, input from the user computer specifying type of information desired by the user;

establishing, by the library system computer, telecommunication link with content provider computer;

transmitting, by the library system computer, said type of information desired by the user as a search request to the content provider computer;

receiving, by the library system computer, result of said search request from the content provider computer; and

providing, by the library system computer, said result to the user computer.

Claim 2 (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

customizing a user interface provided by the interactive library system to the user computer based on type of information desired by the user.

Claim 3 (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing a user interface, by the interactive library system to the user computer, that includes an interactive element, the selection of said element by the user activating a communication program to enable communication with a pre-selected contactee.

Claim 4 (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining, by the library system computer, time amount of access to the interactive library system by the user computer; and

strong, in the library system, said time amount of access to the interactive library system by the user computer.

Claim 5 (Original)   The method of claim 4, further comprising:

generating an account statement after a preselected period of time based on said time amount of access for the user computer stored in the library system.

Claim 6 (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining, by the library system computer, time amount of access by the user computer to each content provider; and

storing, by the library system, said time amount of access by the user computer to each content provider.

Claim 7 (Original)   The method of claim 6, further comprising:

generating an account statement after a preselected period of time based on said time amount of access by the user computer to each content provider stored in the library system.

Claim 8 (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining, by the library system computer, time amount of access by the user computer via the library system computer to each content provider requiring payment for information access; and

storing, by the library system, said time amount of access by the user computer to each content provider requiring payment for information access.

Claim 9 (Original)   The method of claim 8, further comprising:

generating an account statement after a preselected period of time based on said time amount of access by the user computer to each content provider requiring payment for information access stored in the library system.

Claim 10 (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining, by the library system computer, number of said search requests transmitted to the content providers for the user computer; and

storing, by the library system, said number of search requests transmitted for the user computer.

Claim 11 (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

generating an account statement after a preselected period of time based on said number of search requests for the user computer stored in the library system.

Claim 12 (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

accessing, by the providers accessed by the user computer through the library system, preselected user information stored in the library system; and

generating an account statement, by the content providers accessed by the user computer, after a preselected time period based on said preselected user information stored in the library system.

Claim 13 (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving, by the system computer, input from the user computer specifying a preselected time interval for transmitting search request to the content provider.

Claim 14 (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

notifying, by the library system computer, the user computer that said result of said search request is ready for review by the user.

Claim 15 (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said notification is by electronic communication.

Claim 16 (Original) An interactive library system providing telecommunication links with at least one user computer and computer of at least one content provider requiring payment for information access, which comprises:

a library computer adapted to receive and transmit data over telecommunication links, said library computer having a microprocessor and a first storage unit;

a second storage unit electrically coupled to said library computer to store user identifications and corresponding passwords;

a program operable on said microprocessor stored in said first storage unit, said program comparing user identification and password received from the user computer with said user identifications and corresponding passwords stored in said second storage unit to determine whether the user computer is authorized; and

said program, if the user computer is determined to be authorized, causing said library computer to communicate with content provider computer to transmit type of information desired by the user as a search request and to receive result of said search request.

Claim 17 (Original) The interactive library system of claim 16, wherein said first and second storage units are the same.

Claim 18 (Original) The interactive library system of claim 16, which further comprises:

a third storage unit electrically coupled to said library computer to store user-specific data.

Claim 19 (Original) The interactive library system of claim 18, wherein said user-specific data includes customized user interface data.

Claim 20 (Original) The interactive library system of claim 18, wherein said user-specific data includes user account data.

Claim 21 (Original) The interactive library system of claim 20, wherein said user account data includes time amount of access by the user computer to said library computer.

Claim 22 (Original) The interactive system of claim 20, wherein said user account data includes time amount of access by the user computer via said library computer to the computer of each content provider requirement payment for information access.

Claim 23 (Original) The library system of claim 18, wherein said second and third storage units are the same.